

APPENDIX H

DETECTOR DOG PROFICIENCY LEVELS

1. The height/depth criteria for planting training aids for each detector dog proficiency level is listed below. The higher the level achieved by the detector dog team, the more capable the dog is to locate and respond to real world drugs/explosives.

Level Three	0 - 6 feet high	0 - 1-foot deep
Level Five	6 - 7 feet high	1 - 2 feet deep
Level Seven	7 - 8 feet high	2 - 3 feet deep
Level Nine	8 - 9 feet high	3 - 4 feet deep
Level Twelve	9 feet + high	5 feet + deep

2. Before training to a higher level is conducted, the dog must be proficient on all odors at the current level. Depending on the quality/quantity of training, the average time frame for detector dogs to achieve the next higher level is 1 year.

3. During proficiency trials, training aids should be planted, varying the size, at all levels for which the dog is proficient.